## USEFUL AND SUGGESTIVE.

-It is a mistaken idea to cover a warpet with drugget in the belief that it saves it. What wears out carpets is the grinding on the floor, and the protection should come from beneath.

-Current Preserves. -To each pound of fruit, add one pound of good white sugar, and set it on the stove. Let it come to a boil; skim out the currents, and boil the sirup down till it will make jelly; put back the fruit, and dip into bowls. When cold, paste paper wet with white of egg over the top, and set away.

-A Pennsylvania farmer who has tried it recommends, that when spring sowing of clover seeds does not catch, that sowing clover seed upon the stubble in August, or early in September will generally repair the damage, either with or without harrowing in, although harrowing is the most reliable practice. The cost of the seed is but a trifle compared with the changing the proper rotation of the crops, established upon every well-regulated farm.

-A correspondent of the New York Times recommends as a cure for grub in the head, which is unusually prevalent this season, the use of dry airslacked lime in fine powder. A quantity of this is put into a small box or dipper and applied to the sheep's nose, so that some of the dust is inhaled into the nostrils. This causes violent sneezing and the ejection of the grubs. The lime may also be used by scattering it on a barn floor for an inch in depth and drive the sheep through it, by which the dust is raised and breathed and sneezing produced.

-Luncheon Cakes-Boiled ham or bread; capers; celery seeds. Cut the meat very fine and pound it well, adding some butter and a little cream; fill a mold with it, and set it for half an hour in a moderate oven; turn it out, and cover the surface with the beaten whites of the eggs. Cut the bread in thin slices, cutting off the crust; spread each slice with the mixture, and sprinkle with capers or the celery seeds to be obtained at confectioners; then roll the sandwiches, and tie them with fancy

-Many devices have been used to preserve newly planted corn from the crows and blackbirds, but generally without effect. The present season the writer hit upon the device of seasoning the seed with carbolic acid, which has a strong odor, and so far the crows have let the corn severely alone, and there is no injury whatever to the seed. A teaspoonful of the acid is used to a quart of water well stirred and sprayed over the seed placed in a heap on the barn floor. The corn is then stirred with a shovel and more of the solution sprayed upon it until every grain is moistened slightly with it. The seed can be sown with a drill, as it dries in five minutes, but it retains the scent sufficiently to keep off birds and cut-

## Malaria.

Regularity of habit in eating, in sleeping, in exercise, is essential to good health; food, nutritious, clean and well-cooked, is another essential; suitable clothing and habitation another; cleanliness another. Boerhave's three rules for health are "keep the head cool, the feet warm and the bowels open." The difficulty with most people is that they want to do exactly as they please. eat when they have an impulse in that direction, work when the fit takes them, wear what they fancy, go without sleep, indulge in all sorts of irregularities and impulses and yet have good health all the time. The thing can't be done. We are under law, and health and happiness can be secured only by obedience to law, only as we learn and obey

a healthy condition, one is in little danger of suffering from malaria even in a malarious locality. The East Indian kindles a fire in the jungle or the forest, and clothed in flannel defies the malaria. It is the practice of physicians to visit patients sick with infectious diseases after they have eaten a full meal and when the skin is in a manner in ensible, the blood being busy in the stomach with the process of digestion. For the same reason exposure to malarious influences should be anticipated by suitable preparation as to food and clothing. It is said one never takes a chill" without first feeling chilly. As long as the surface of the body feels warm and comfortable, there is little danger that the malarial poison will be absorbed by the skin. Nothing is a greater protection from malaria and also from bowel complaints than flannel. The British army in India wear flannel the year round, and since this regulation was introduced the suffering and death from climatic exposures have greatly diminished. An open fire in a malarious or infectious locality is a great protection, for dampness precedes chilliness. In many districts where chill and fever prevail, coffee is considered a preventive, and one compelled to exposure to the dews of the morning or the evening, which are considered specially unwholesome, is fortified against them by drinking a cup of strong Rio coffee that has been boiled long enough to extract the bitter ingredient of the berry. Rio is preferred to other varieties as being less ripe and more efficient in its properties, more a medicine and less a beverage. Sleeping rooms in a malarious country should be on the second or third floor, above the creeping poisonous mists that cling to the earth. We shall be glad if those who can add to what we have given from our own knowledge and experience will make further suggestions in reply to the letter of our correspondent. -N. Y. Tribune.

## Destroying the Curculia.

Those who have only a few fruit trees, and are earnestly desirous to see the fruit grow to perfection, can by regular and persevering warfare on the curculio accomplish the object. In the financial sense it may not always pay. but that with many is not the point at

The curculio, which destroys apricots. nectarines, plums, peaches and cherries, and frequently injures pears and apples, is a winged insect with a long proboseis and a small body. When taken in the hand from the earth or a sheet. it much resembles a dried bud, both in color and shape. The incision it makes in fruit is not malicious, but simply the carrying out of its maternal instincts. In the crescent-shaped cut it makes it deposits an egg. or nit. This soon hatches and becomes a "worm," living on the fruit until it attains a certain period of growth, when it leaves it, goes, probably, into the earth until the next spring, and then appears as the full-fledged winged insect, to "sting" more fruit, and die in its turn.

The common period of work for this insect is the early morning, from daylight until the dew is gone. At least this is the best time to catch it, because then there is usually little or no wind and it is moderately cool. The tools wanted are a white muslin sheet and a rubber mallet. The sheet should be large enough to cover the ground under the trees to be operated upon, with a slit in the middle for half its length, so that it can pass around the trunk. The sheet is to be kept open by light sticks or laths nailed at the ends, and two persons at least are needed to operate it, and three tongue; butter; whites of eggs; slices of are better. Lay the sheet on the ground, and with the mallet strike the tree on the trunk if not large, or else on some of the limbs. The blow should be sharp rather than heavy. On feeling the jar the curculio draws up his (or her) legs and drops. On reaching the sheet it lies motionless for a minute or two, as if feigning death. Hunt it out, pick it up, and destroy it. Go from tree to tree in this way, once each fair day at least, and as much oftener as you can. Every specimen of fruit will not be saved, but a fair share of the crop. Much will depend on the time the work is begun and the persistency with which it is kept up. It should commence the moment the fruit "sets," and be kept up through five or six weeks, or until it is nearly ripe. It can be done rapidly after a little practice, or at the rate of about one tree per min-

ute in a cultivated orchard. Ellwanger & Barry, the noted nursery firm of Rochester, and John J. Thomas, of the Country Gentleman, (who resides at Union Springs, N. Y.,) have practiced this system for thirty or forty years, mainly with plums, and with paying results, as they claim. If they can pay for hired labor to do such work, it ought also to pay those amateurs or others who have only a few trees, and who are anxious to achieve the best results with them.

Only one grown person, and one or two children to assist, are needed to do the work. A very little practice will enable the operators to single out the curculio from the bits of rubbish which the mallet may bring down from the tree. The number per tree on a hot morning will vary greatly, sometimes none, sometimes two dozen, though this number is rare. Shaking the tree will not answer; it must be a blow. Mr. Thomas recommends that a spike be driven into the tree and a nail-hammer struck upon it; others saw off a spare limb and strike on the stump. A rubber mallet the writer has found to be preferable to either. The early morning is the best time to operate, because then the air is generally still, and the work is impracticable when the wind blows strong; nor can it be done in rainy weather. When the season is If the skin is kept warm, clean and in | over the sheet can be rolled up and laid away, and be used again through several seasons.—N. Y. Observer.

## Feeding Green Corn to Swine.

Green corn, as soon as it is fairly ripe enough for ordinary table use, is probably the very best fattening food available to the general farmer for feeding swine. The pigs eat it with a peculiar relish, and will grow and fatten upon it with surprising rapidity. No food is equal to this for putting pigs in good "show condition" for the fairs.

But while all this is true, it no doubt is a very expensive food when used at this period. In a discussion upon this point to which we once listened, an old farmer remarked that he had "often noticed that when his wife fed his hired men on green corn at the table, one man would often eat four or five ears, while one of these same ears if ripened, ground into meal and made into bread would feed four or five men." Probably this was overstating the difference, but it is no doubt an expensive, and, in some degree, a wasteful use of food to use corn before it is fully ripeaed .-National Live Stock Journal.

-Pickled Peppers.-Cut the tops out in a round circle with a sharp penknife, and preserve them; fill each pepper with a mixture of finely-chopped cabbage, horse-radish, mustard-seed and sait. Before filling, mash the peppers in cold water, then fill, replace the pieces cut out, tie with coarse thread, pack them in stone jars, and fill them up with cold, sharp vinegar. They will be ready for use in two weeks.

-- A bald eagle was caught near the Delaware Western Railroad Bridge at Wilmington, Del. At the time of capture it was engaged in combat with a large Newfoundland dog, which it was endeavoring to carry off.

-Ladies in Waiting-Middle-aged spinsters.

English Parish Customs.

The custom of the flitch of bacon at Dunmow is not the least curious among those which rural parishes present. Far back in the old days when there was a priory at Dunmow, in Essex, the monks made a promise of a flitch of bacon to any married couple who could take oath that they had never quarreled nor regretted their union. Whether the bachelor monks only intended to encourage conjugal harmony, or whether they satirically believed that married folk never do live together twelve months without discord, we can guess as best we may. At any rate the successful applicants for the flitch were few and far between. The priory was suppressed at the Reformation, but the old custom survived, the flitch being given by the lord of the manor. In the last century the ceremony was con-ducted with much parade. The couple appeared at a court baron; a jury of unmarried persons heard the averments; and if the results were satisfactory, a verdict was given-to the effect that the couple had been married at least one year; that they had lived quietly and lovingly together; and that they were deserving of the promised prize. This verdict being delivered, the happy couple, standing near the church door, made a declaration, received the flitch and were chaired in procession through the town. The lords of the manor by degrees declined to offer the tempting bonus; and the clergy viewed unfavorably some of the incidents accompanying the proceedings. Twenty or thirty years ago a few literary men revived the ceremony at their own expense-more as a whimsical joke for that one occasion, than as a permanent custom. From time to time the local journals record an observance of the ceremony. There is reason to believe, however, that speculative trade is mainly concerned here; the flitch being provided by some taverner interested in bringing together a large assemblage of thirsty souls.

In the cheese-making district of Gloucestershire, a pleasant kind of characteristic harvest-home used to be celebrated annually. Three large cheeses were placed on a litter or barrow, decked with flowers and branches of trees. They were drawn through and about the parish, with music and rejoicing. In the churchyard the cheeses were removed from the litter, rolled three times round the church, conveyed back to the village, cut up and distributed among the peasantry. - Chambers' Journal.

## The Wild Canary.

From nearly every garden in Manilla the rich notes from the wild canary can be heard, and, in the opinion of many, its songs are preferable to that of its more brilliant domesticated brother; for, without the shrillness of the latter, it has very near its compass and fullness of tone. It generally chooses the topmost branch of a tree and pours forth a little flood of music which it sustains even when flying from one tree to another. Occasionally, though rarely, it will also sing from the tops of houses. Ornamental firs and other thick-foliaged trees are its favorite building-places, and it is not uncommon to find five or six nests in one tree. The song is continued more or less throughout the year.—London Field.

-The improved French method of preserving wood by the application of lime is said to be found to work well. The plan is to pile the planks in a tank and put over all a layer of quicklime, which is gradually slaked with water. Timber for mines requires about a week to be thoroughly impregnated, and other wood more or lesstime, according to its thickness. The wood acquires remarkable consistence and hardness, it is stated, on being subjected to the simple process, and the assertion is made that it will never rot. Beechwood prepared in this way for bammers and other tools for iron-works is found to acquire the hardness of oak, without parting with any of its elasticity or toughness, and it also lasts longer.

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CHILDREN should be warned not to take what doesn't belong to them—especially the measles and small-pox.—Philadelphia Chron-

Evening Express on Hop Bitters.

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